Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

This "cover" page added by the Internet Archive for formatting purposes

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

News

Montana State Library
3 0864 1004 2100 0

VOLUME 19, NO. 6 NOVEMBER 1990

Anaconda Voters Approve Hearst Library Levy

Voters in Anaconda approved a county ballot measure November 6 that will allow the Hearst Free Library to receive an additional four mills--or approximately $34,500--in the fall of 1991.

Seventy-one percent of the voters went along with the library's slogan for Proposition 195: "Free Hearst First: Vote Yes on Proposition 195."

"We're relieved," said Library Director Deni Corrigan. "We have a 92-year-old building, and without the money, the upkeep would have been really hard."

Corrigan said hundreds of volunteers helped staff a phone-a-thon and "probably talked to or sent a postcard to every registered voter in the county."

Without Proposition 195, the library faced a $43,000 cut in its budget. Anaconda/Deer Lodge County commissioners voted in July 1990 to remove the library's budget from the general fund.

Townsend Voters Nix Library Bond Issue

Voters in Townsend turned down a $675,000 bond issue November 6 that would have paid for a new annex on the Broadwater County Courthouse designed to house the library and make the courthouse handicapped accessible.

Library director Sharon Borer said the bond issue failed by 2-to-1.

"We *did* campaign, had articles in the paper, put out flyers," Borer said. "We kind of got the impression that that's what would happen."

Borer said that the library board would try to get grant money for the courthouse annex, adding, "We aren't dead in the water yet."

Receiving their service pins on October 31 were (from left to right): Mary Jane West, administrative assistant; Vicki Terbovich, reference librarian; Dixie Carlson, circulation clerk, and Diana Halverson, acquisitions technician.

State Library Employees Receive Service Pins

Five State Library staff members have received service pins from State Librarian Richard Miller for either five or ten years of continuous state employment.

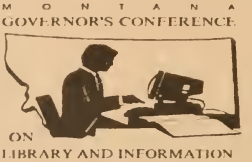
The employees received their pins during a staff meeting October 31.

They are: Dixie Carlson, circulation clerk, 10-year pin; Terry Ferguson, director of the Warm Springs State Hospital patients' library, 10-year pin; Mary Jane West, administrative assistant, 5-year pin; Vicki Terbovich, reference librarian, 5-year pin, and Diana Halverson, acquisitions technician, 5-year pin.

Commission Grants Delay On Collection Policies

The State Library Commission, meeting October 24 in Laurel, gave the state's libraries until Oct. 1, 1991, to have an approved collection management policy on file at the State Library in order to receive any grant application.

(continued on page 5)



Governor's Conference

All six regional preconferences--plus the Native American preconference--leading up to the Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services have been held, and their delegates and alternates elected. These delegates (or alternates if necessary) will attend the Governor's Conference in Helena on January 6-8.

Golden Plains Preconference: Delegates: Patricia Knudsen; Louise Nieskens; Beverly Hadley. Alternates: Sheila Lee.

Sagebrush Preconference: Delegates: Rolane Christofferson; Eleanor N. Gray; Bethany R. Redlin. Alternates: Delores Drennen; Joan Delano Haute; Jean Failing.

South Central Preconference: Delegates: Gaye R. Walter; Janet Stevenson; Joan L. Voise. Alternates: Jane L. Howell; Carolyn M. Nelson.

Tamarack Preconference: Delegates: Sally Bullers; Jerry C. Long; C.E. Abramson; Bruce Bugbee. Alternates: Karen Rehard.

Pathfinder Preconference: Delegates: Peggy Floerchinger; Gary L. Cady; Bob James. Alternates: Cynthia Rooley; Ann Boettcher; Donna Albers.

Broad Valleys Preconference: Delegates: Deborah Schlesinger; Jack Hutchison; Beverly H. Knapp; Susanne DesJardins. Alternates: Mike Schulz; Bev Coleman; Kelly Elser; Toni Person.

Native American Preconference: Delegates: Rosemary Austin; Margaret C. Perez; Deanna Parisian. Alternates: Nathan E. Bender; Norma Bixby.

Wanted: Missing Books

The following seven titles were sent in response to a request. Unfortunately, the recipient was not correctly recorded. If you know of their whereabouts, please return them or have them returned to the State Library as soon as possible.

"Public Relations for the Smaller Library"; "Fiscal Responsibility and the Small Public Library," by Andrew Geddes; "Serving Children in Small Public Libraries," by Diana Young; "The Librarian as Administrator of the Small Public Library," by Kathleen Mehaffey; "A Budgeting Manual for Small Public Libraries," by William Campbell; "The Trustee of a Small Public Library," by Virginia G. Young, and "Handbook for Small, Rural and Emerging Public Libraries," by Anne Gervasi.

What's Your Favorite SRP Theme for 1991?

The planning committee for Montana's first ever statewide summer reading program needs input from children's librarians and librarians who work with children.

At an initial meeting in Missoula on October 6, committee members brainstormed potential themes. They are:

☐ "Dinomania" (dinosaur theme, bones, etc.);

☐ "Digging up Books" (same as above);

☐ "Friends of the Library Devour Books" (monsters, dinosaurs, etc.), and,

☐ "Get the 'Bear' Facts--Read!" (grizzly bear reading a book).

Please indicate your choice and mail this clipping to Cathy Siegner, Montana State Library, 1515 E. 6th Ave., Helena, 59620.

After a theme is chosen, the committee will help produce a manual with suggestions for activities, crafts, story times, etc., and camera-ready art for materials.

There will be sample art for the 1991 SRP in the January issue of this newsletter.

Advisory Council Needs Rep For Disadvantaged

Due to a resignation, an opening exists on the Library Services Advisory Council to represent the disadvantaged.

The Advisory Council advises the State Library Commission on issues related to libraries and library funding (particularly federal LSCA funding) in Montana.

The definition of "disadvantaged" is "persons whose socio-economic or educational deprivation or whose cultural isolation from the general community may preclude them from benefitting from public library services to the same extent as the general community benefits from these services."

If you are interested, or know someone who is, please contact Mary Jane West for a copy of the nomination form. Write: Montana State Library, 1515 E. 6th Ave., Helena, MT 59620, or call 444-3115. Nominations should be received by Jan. 15, 1991.

State Library Produces Bookmark In Honor Of Children's Book Week

The State Library's Library Development Unit sent public and school libraries across Montana a special bookmark in honor of Children's Book Week (November 12-18).

The bookmark also functions as a ballot for the Young Reader's Choice Award, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

Fourth through eighth graders read at least two books from the list, vote for their favorite and submit the ballot to their school or public library between March 1 and 15, 1991. There is a new senior division category this year for high school-age students.

There are no printed bookmarks left, but the State Library will send a camera-ready bookmark to librarians who wish to photocopy their own. Contact Cathy Siegner at 444-5353 if you want one.

Children's Book Reviews

The key after each review gives the grade level for which the book would be appropriate, the reviewer's assessment of the book's quality (Q) and popularity (P) level, with Q4 and P4 being the highest possible rating, the publisher's information, publication date, number of pages, price and ISBN number.

Horrible Harry's Secret, by Suzy Kline, pictures by Frank Remkiewicz (reviewed by Darlene Staffeldt, Information Resources director, Montana State Library).

Horrible Harry is in love, but that is only one of his secrets. Is Sidney safe while Harry's in love? What do frogs, liver and love have in common? Will the snowdown accomplish what Horrible Harry needs it to accomplish?

This is a wonderful tale of friendships and school life. There are laughs throughout this text. This title would be a good addition to any new reader's library.

(Grades 2-5; Q4/P4; Viking, New York, NY; 1990; 55 pages; $10.95; ISBN 0-670-82470-4.)

How We Learned the Earth is Round, by Patricia Lauber, illustrated by Megan Lloyd (reviewed by Darlene Staffeldt).

This is a Let's Read-and-Find-Out Science Book. The illustrations are very good, but the text does not flow smoothly. The explanation of the various beliefs about the earth's shape are good, but the reader is led from examples of why the earth is round back into Greek geography books. Also, the jump from Magellan to spaceships is quite sharp. Good information but awkward presentation.

(K-4th grade; Q3/P2; Crowell, New York, NY; 32 pages; $12.89; ISBN 0-690-04862-9.)

Pulling My Leg, by Jo Carson, pictures by Julie Downing (reviewed by Darlene Staffeldt).

When you are six or so, a loose tooth is always a big deal. Uncle Tom collects hammer, pliers and screwdriver to help the child with her loose tooth. Will wonders ever stop? Just before the operation begins, the tooth amazingly comes out by itself.

This is a wonderful story with fantastic colored pencil drawings throughout.

(PS-2; Q4/P4; Orchard Books, New York, NY; 1990; 32 pages that are not numbered; $14.95; ISBN 0-531-05817-4.)

Three Strong Women: A Tall Tale From Japan, by Claus Stamm, illustrations by Jean and Mou-Sien Tseng (reviewed by Charlotte Henson, librarian, Lincoln Elementary School, Helena).

This is a reissue of the 1962 classic about the Japanese wrestler, Forever-Mountain, who encounters a young girl who drags him home to her family. His pride in his own strength is squashed when the girl's mother arrives carrying a cow, and her grandmother throws a tree up the mountain. But under their guidance, his strength improves so much that at the end, he is easily able to defeat all the other wrestlers at the emperor's annual championships.

I have used this folktale many times as a read-aloud (15-20 minutes), and students just love the humor of the sex role reversal and the wrestling. It's good for discussions of both tall tales and gender expectations. This newer book has a larger format and better colored illustrations than the original.

(PS-5; Q3/P4; Viking, New York, NY; 1962/1990; unpaged; $12.95.)

But I'll Be Back Again: An Album, by Cynthia Rylant (reviewed by Charlotte Henson).

In this album about her childhood in West Virginia in the 1960s, award-winning author Cynthia Rylant recalls her feelings toward smooching with the local boys, the Beatles, religion, her menarche, poverty, an alcoholic father and Bobby Kennedy.

The simplicity and universality of her emotional recollections reminded me of my own feelings of confusion, longing and innocence. I think that girls of today will also find themselves in these chapters. But the book won't jump out at them and will have to be sold, either as part of a lesson on writers or childhood rites of passage. The book is illustrated with photos of the child Cindy and marked with quotes from the Beatles.

(Grade 6 & up; Q3/P2; Franklin Watts, New York, NY; 1989; $12.95.)

Higbee's Halloween, by Robert Newton Peck (reviewed by Michael Hutchinson, children's dept., Flathead County Library, Kalispell).

For years, young readers have gleefully enjoyed the zany adventures of Soup and Rob, young heroes of small-town America. Now award-winning author Peck introduces another pair of youthful characters: Higbee Higginbottom and Quincy Cobb. Facing off against the deliciously evil Striker kids, Hig and Quincy concoct one of the most complicated Halloween pranks in literary history. From one hilarious situation to another, the boys persevere and ultimately triumph over their nasty adversaries. For pure entertainment value, nobody does it better than Robert Newton Peck. This may not be exactly the way we were, but it's how we should have been.

(Grades 5-7; Q4/P4; Walker & Co., New York, NY; 102 pages; $13.95.)

Friends First, by Christine McDonnell (reviewed by Joyce G. Johnson, head of public services, Flathead County Library).

A lovely story that is a "growing up" kind of book. Miranda and her upstairs neighbor, Gus, grew up together and were always best friends. Subtle sexual harassment by neighborhood boys and a near assault, plus a good old-fashioned talk about the facts of life with the housekeeper, put Miranda into a

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)
tizzy about becoming a woman and maintaining her best-friend status with Gus. A sensitive talk between Miranda and her mother puts some perspective on the situation.

This book has a lot to offer for young readers. A good book!

(Grades 6-9; Q4/P3; Viking, New York, NY; 171 pages; $11.95.)

Hero Over Here, by Kathleen V. Kudlinski (reviewed by Barbara Benish, librarian, Montana City Elementary School).

In this fictionalized account of the flu epidemic of 1918, 10-year-old Theodore nurses his mother and older sister through the worst phases of the disease. His longing to visit his Montana cousin's ranch is an appealing subplot.

The characterization is a bit weak because of Theodore's rapid change from a lively, happy-go-lucky child to a responsible caregiver, but it is partially required for brevity.

Generously illustrated with black and white drawings, this is a good book for 7-11-year-olds--an often difficult area to stock. And, it is only one in a series ("Once Upon America") by well-known authors.

(Grades 2-4; Q3/P3; Viking Penguin, New York, NY; 54 pages; $11.95.)

Stonewords: A Ghost Story, by Pam Conrad (reviewed by Barbara Benish).

Pam Conrad's fine writing elevates this ghost story a definite notch above most of the tales that feature this currently popular plot.

Told in first person by the young Zoe, who lives with her grandparents in a century-old house, this story evokes the strong feelings that accompany abandonment, fleeting friendship, honest forgiveness and deep love.

Zoe's unstable mother sends her to live with her grandparents when Zoe is four years old. Almost immediately, Zoe is confronted by the visage of Zoe Louise, a ghostly girl several years older than Zoe.

As the girls travel between time via an old staircase that is no longer used, their developing friendship is highlighted by Zoe's maturing relationship with her grandparents and her mother.

Concluding events are saved from being trite by Zoe's complex thoughts as she emerges into a world where she can now trust change because of the real love that surrounds her.

(Grade 5 & up; Q4/P4; Harper & Row, New York, NY; 130 pages; $12.89.)

Shanghai Passage, by Gregory Patent (reviewed by Janice Bacino, assistant librarian, Shodair Hospital, Helena).

This recollection by Missoula author Patent tells of a boy's early years in Shanghai during World War II and up to the 1949 Communist takeover of China.

The son of an Iraqi mother and a Russian father, both Jewish and expatriates, Gregory Patent was purposely born in Hong Kong to have the advantages of British citizenship. In first-person narrative, he describes bombing raids, school arguments, friendships, deaths and family relations, with the equal effect they all had on his young mind and personality.

This is not a book with a compelling plot that moves one further on, but rather a pleasant string of experiences and childhood observations that paint what we might think of as an exotic parentage and lifestyle in terms all children can experience. Of special note are the detailed illustrations and attractive print size and binding. A very pleasant book.

(Grades 3-6; Q3/P3; Clarion Books, New York, NY; 115 pages; $13.95.)

Such Nice Kids, by Eve Bunting (reviewed by Judy Stephenson, librarian, Big Sandy Schools).

Jason, Pidge and Meeker are not only teammates but friends in spite of different personalities and backgrounds. One weekend, Jason's parents leave town, leaving Jason at home alone because they feel a 16-year-old can look after himself and, under normal circumstances, Jason probably could have. When he decides to loan his mother's car, without her permission, to a friend so Jason's date with Destiny doesn't get "messed up," a death and a stint in juvenile hall result. Jason's life will never be the same.

This book shows how one bad decision breeds another until the snowball effect takes over and everyone is hopelessly entangled.

(Grades 5-7; Q2/P2; Clarion Books, New York, NY; 1990; 120 pages; $13.95.)

North American Indian Survival Skills, and **North American Indian Medicine People**, both by Karen Liptak (reviewed by Larry Grieco, librarian, Stone Child College).

Both of these books are part of a larger series--part history and part anthropology--for young readers.

The book on survival skills is a simple text, but not too simple to be useful. It offers tips on almost all facets of survival in the wild. Willy Whitefeather, who teaches survival skills to schoolchildren, is frequently cited, to the point where one wonders if he might more accurately have been named co-author. The book has numerous illustrations, a glossary, bibliography and index. Recommended.

(Grades 5-8; Q3/P4; Franklin Watts, New York; 1990; 64 pages; $11.90; ISBN 0-531-10870-8.)

The book on Indian medicine people is anthropology pure and simple; it might make a grade schooler want to become an anthropologist. The use of the term "medicine person" is only awkward the first few times you read it (remember how stilted "chairperson" used to sound?). Although it lacks some of the appeal of Liptak's survival book, it is better written, and kids will probably read them both. Illustrated with a glossary, bibliography and index.

(Grades 5-8; Q4/P3; Franklin Watts, New York; 1990; 64 pages; $11.90; ISBN 0-531-10868-6.)

Press Roundup

Eastern Montana College Library in Billings has begun installing a Dynix automated system, courtesy of a $600,000 anonymous donation specifically targeted for library automation.

Recycling fundraisers have been held at both the **Joliet Community Library** and the **Carnegie Public Library** in Big Timber.

The **Glendive Public Library** held a special week of readings for students during October.

Friends of the **Polson Library** received the final installment of a $15,000 grant from the Confederated Salish-Kootenai Tribes to help pay for the new library building.

A century of services was celebrated November 4 by the **Butte-Silver Bow Public Library** at an open house. State Library Commission chair Mary Doggett, State Librarian Richard Miller and former commission member Dr. Henry McClernan attended.

Parmly Billings Library is displaying a traveling photographic exhibit on the history of Montana roads and bridges; the exhibit next moves to a Lewistown bank.

There were more than 9,000 visits to the **John Gregory Library** in Whitehall last year, according to the library's annual report.

Children attending storytime at the **Fallon County Library** in Baker got to see a real fire truck.

An exhibit of poetry, fabric dolls and woodwork was up during October at the **Henry A. Malley Memorial Library** in Broadus.

ALA President To Speak At University of Montana

Richard Dougherty, president of the American Library Association, will speak February 12 on "The Crisis in Scholarly Communication: Has the Vehicle Lost a Wheel?" as part of the President's Lecture Series at the University of Montana's Montana Theater.

Lorrie Monprode-Holt

Library Commission Gets New OPI Representative

Lorrie Monprode-Holt, library media specialist with the state Office of Public Instruction, has been designated to represent Superintendent of Public Instruction Nancy Keenan on the State Library Commission.

Monprode-Holt replaces Cheri Bergeron, who represented Keenan on the Commission beginning in October 1989.

Blue Ribbon Panel To Report By December 12

Members of the special Blue Ribbon Panel on "Libraries at Risk" have met for the third time and are readying their report for the State Library Commission.

Created by the Commission, the panel is investigating the current status and projected needs of Montana's libraries and making recommendations for change.

Panel members will meet again on December 6 at the State Library before presenting their report to the Commission at its December 12 meeting in Helena.

Members of the panel are: Jim Nybo, Helena labor arbitrator and consulting economist (chair); Margaret Kingsland, executive director of the Montana Committee for the Humanities, Missoula (vice-chair); Noreen Alldredge, dean of MSU's Renne Library; State Librarian Richard Miller; Dr. Henry McClernan, Montana Tech., Butte; Suzy Holt, medical librarian, Helena; Sidney Poole, Helena school librarian; Judy Browning, deputy state attorney general, Helena; John Delano, Helena lobbyist; Royal Johnson, Billings businessman; Richard Dunn, librarian at UM's Mansfield Library, and Peggy Guthrie, Choteau, public member.

Commission Report
(continued from page 1)

The new timeline will affect all FY '92 grants (Oct. 1, 1991-Sept. 30, 1992). Any library submitting a grant application this year will have to have a collection management policy, but the policy does not have to first be approved by the State Library for the library to be eligible to apply for a grant.

The Commission also accepted the Voluntary Certification Task Force's plan. Implementation is scheduled to begin in January 1992.

At the State Library's request, the Commission postponed distribution of the LaserCat grant applications until January 1991.

The Commission heard final reports from the 1989 LSCA Academic and Federal Documents projects. The Federal Documents project has developed a Montana State Plan for Federal Depository Library Service. The Academic project has produced a brochure, "Montana College and University Library Resources," a chart of "Library Collection Strengths needed to support Degree Programs at the level indicated," and "Collection Goals at 'Level 3' for Graduate or Unique Programs."

The Commission determined there is a need for a new study of Montana's federations in light of reduced revenue from Coal Severance Taxes.

Flathead College Library Moves To New Quarters

After more than 15 years of sharing space and service with the Flathead County Library in Kalispell, the Flathead Valley Community College library collection has moved to the Learning Resource Center at the college's new 40-acre campus.

The 9,700-square-foot library will have LaserCat and Info Trac workstations, and plans are underway to hook into the public library's Dynix automation system later on.

The FVCC Foundation and library director Michael Ober raised about $90,000 for equipment and furnishings for the new library.

Contributions came from local banks, BN Foundation, Plum Creek Timber Co., Ila B. Dousman Foundation, Margaret Clifford Trust, Glacier Park Inc./ Greyhound; Montana Power/ ENTECH and individual donors and businesses.

The FVCC library's new address and phone numbers are: 777 Grandview Drive, Kalispell, 59901, 756-3856, 756-3854 (fax).

Calendar of Events

December

4-6	Geographic Information System conference, Missoula
6	Blue Ribbon Panel on "Libraries at Risk," Helena
8	Cultural Advocacy meeting, Helena
11	Federation Coordinators, Helena
12	State Library Commission, Helena
25	Christmas holiday

January

1	New Year's holiday
6-8	Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services, Helena
8	MLA Legislative Day, Helena
9	Library Services Advisory Council, Helena
20-26	National Book Week and Montana Book Week

Around The State

Public Library Changes:

Arriving--Colleen Reid, director, Bridger Public Library; Renee Goss, director, Sidney Public Library; Ruby Hammond, director, Wibaux Public Library; Ruth Peterson, director, Jocko Valley Library, Arlee; Barbara Weiss, children's librarian, Lewis & Clark Public Library, Helena.

Departing--Janice Bacino, children's librarian, Lewis & Clark Public Library, Helena, to become assistant librarian at Shodair Hospital, Helena; Phyllis Sundberg, director, Bridger Public Library, retired.

Scholarship Available

The American Library Association has two minority scholarships available: one in library or information science and the other in applications of automation in libraries. Contact the ALA at 1-800-545-2433 for more information.

Montana State Library Commission

Mary Doggett, *Chair*
White Sulphur Springs

C.E. Abramson, *Vice-Chair*
Missoula

Lloyd Wallin
Deer Lodge

Nancy Keenan
Helena

Mary Hudspeth
Libby

Anne Hauptman
Billings

Michael Schulz
Dillon

Commissioners' addresses are in the *Montana Library Directory*

Richard T. Miller, Jr., *State Librarian*

Cathy Siegner, *Newsletter Editor*, 444-5353

Montana State Library
1515 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, Montana 59620

Nonprofit Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 30
Helena, MT 59620